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25.2.00

RECEIVED

02 MAR 2000

Legal Staff
Intellectual Division

Re.: Appl. No. 09/242,072
PCT No. PCT/AU96/00442
"APPARATUS FOR LIQUID PURIFICATION"
Notification from PCT Legal Office dated 8.2.00 with Post Date 14.2.00

1. Fees

The applicant's Deposit Account with the US Patent Office should eliminate any threat of abandonment of the present application.

2. Vacating Forms PCT/DO/EO/916 and 917

▪ The quoted MPEP 7.10.06 is equivalent to the stipulations in 37 CFR 1.111 and 1.121. The applicant's request dated 18.12.99 "to return the application to the pending status awaiting examiner action after the applicant's response dated 7.9.99" means in effect to "reset" the office action.

The applicant did not request that the forms be vacated in the sense of abandoning the forms as insinuated by the author of above identified office action.

- In fact the forms were completed and returned by recorded delivery dated 24.12.99
- The petitioner is still waiting for a reply (decision) to his petition dated 18.12.99 from the **Group Director** according to the stipulations in MPEP 710.06. The setting by the author of the office action of 16.1.00 as the date of expiration of the period for reply is therefore wholly unfounded. Ever if this date were valid, the petitioner can easily **prove that the required reply was timely received by the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks.**

The petitioner therefore requests a reappraisal of the position taken by the author of the above identified office action.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Miller